

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for propagating presence information, comprising:
2 transmitting a message from a first network entity to a second network
3 entity;
4 receiving the message using a messaging service of the second network
5 entity;
6 gathering presence information associated with the second network entity
7 by the messaging service; and
8 providing the presence information in backward messaging to the first
9 network entity.
- 1 2. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising accessing a
2 profile server associated with the second network entity, wherein profile information
3 accessed from the profile server governs first network entity access rights to the presence
4 information.
- 1 3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein the presence information
2 provided to the first network entity is automatically attached to the backward messaging in
3 accordance with the first network entity access rights.
- 1 4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein the backward messaging
2 includes one of a read report or a delivery report.
- 1 5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the backward messaging
2 is provided by Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) signalling.

1 6. A messaging system, comprising:
2 a first terminal coupled to transmit a message;
3 a network element coupled to relay the message and to provide
4 acknowledgment of message receipt to the first terminal; and
5 a second terminal coupled to receive the message, wherein presence
6 information is attached to the acknowledgment by the network element to automatically
7 update the first terminal with second terminal presence information.

1 7. The messaging system according to Claim 6, further comprising:
2 a profile server coupled to provide preference information associated with
3 the second terminal; and
4 a presence server coupled to provide presence information associated with
5 the second terminal.

1 8. The messaging system according to Claim 7, wherein the network
2 element obtains first terminal access rights to the presence information from the profile
3 server.

1 9. The messaging system according to Claim 8, wherein the network
2 element provides presence information to the first terminal in accordance with the first
3 terminal access rights.

1 10. The messaging system according to Claim 6, wherein the network
2 element provides acknowledgment of message receipt using one of a read report or a
3 delivery report.

1 11. The messaging system according to Claim 6, wherein the network
2 element provides acknowledgment of message receipt using signalling related to the
3 Session Initiation Protocol (SIP).

1 12. A mobile terminal wirelessly coupled to a network which includes a
2 network element capable of accessing presence information, the mobile terminal
3 comprising:
4 a memory capable of storing at least one of a messaging module and a
5 presence processor;
6 a processor coupled to the memory and configured by the messaging
7 module to enable a backward message exchange with the network element; and
8 a transceiver configured to facilitate the message exchange with the network
9 element, wherein the processor is configured by the presence processor to display the
10 presence information attached to the backward message.

1 13. The mobile terminal according to Claim 12, wherein the presence
2 information is stored within the memory.

1 14. The mobile terminal according to Claim 13, wherein the presence
2 information is displayed by a delivery report menu option of the mobile terminal.

1 15. The mobile terminal according to Claim 13, wherein the presence
2 information is displayed from any storage location within the memory that is accessible by
3 a display screen of the mobile terminal.

1 16. The mobile terminal according to Claim 12, wherein the presence
2 information is automatically displayed without user interaction.

1 17. The mobile terminal according to Claim 16, wherein the user is
2 provided an option to save the presence information after its automatic display.

1 18. A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon
2 which are executable by a first mobile terminal for exchanging messages by performing
3 steps comprising:

4 transmitting a message to a second mobile terminal;
5 receiving an acknowledgment message from a messaging service of the
6 second mobile terminal; and
7 displaying presence information contained within the acknowledgment
8 message, wherein the presence information is populated by the messaging service.

1 19. A server within a network used to facilitate an exchange of
2 messages, comprising:

3 means for receiving a message from a first terminal;
4 means for extracting presence information associated with a recipient of the
5 message; and
6 means for providing the presence information to the first terminal in a
7 backward message.

1 20. The server according to Claim 19, further comprising means for
2 extracting profile information associated with the recipient of the message.

1 21. The server according to Claim 20, further comprising means for
2 filtering the presence information provided in accordance with the profile information.

1 22. A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon
2 which are executable by a network server for facilitating messaging by performing steps
3 comprising:

4 receiving messages from a first network terminal;
5 obtaining presence information associated with a recipient of the messages;
6 formatting the presence information into a backward message in accordance
7 with profile information associated with the recipient of the messages; and
8 sending the backward message to the first network terminal.